

MINUTES OF THE
BLANCHARD MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – JULY 14, 2015
7:00 O'CLOCK

Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Lee, Alderpersons Fuller, Guin, Umling, and Whittington, Chief Presswood, Atty. Tom Arceneaux, Lonnie Smith, Debra Smith-Town Clerk, and various guests.

Absent: Mayor Digilormo, Perry Fuller, and David Yeates.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Pro-Tem Lee.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Whittington.

Invocation given by Arceneaux.

Questions and Statements of Citizens: Mr. Rodney Warren, Assistant Pastor with the Oil City Pentecostal Church, asked to rent the big room at Town Hall every Wednesday. The Council approved at the cost of \$25.00 per rental.

Mr. Robert Jenkins expressed concern re: his neighbor having a mattress and couch in the back yard. Limbs have been placed in the ditches causing water to back up and there has been a nonworking car parked on the road for more than a month. Whittington stated someone would contact the people regarding the issues.

Motion by Fuller to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting June 9, and Special Meeting June 23, 2015. Second by Guin. All voted yea.

Old Business

Discussion of resolution of liquidated damages dispute with McInnis Brothers concerning water plant construction contract.

Motion by Whittington to go into Executive Session to include the Council, Attorney, Town Clerk, and Lonnie Smith. Second by Fuller. All voted yea. Executive Session began at 7:11 p.m.

Motion by Whittington exit Executive Session, second by Fuller. All voted yea. Executive Session ended at 7:21 p.m.

Motion by Whittington to authorize Attorney Arceneaux to counter offer to McInnis Brothers for liquidated damages for the water plant in the sum of \$77,400.00 (Seventy-seven Thousand, Four Hundred and NO/00). Second by Umling. All voted yea.

New Business

Review of Forms for the Building Inspections Ordinance for Council questions, discussions, and approval.

No action required at this time.

Report of Departments

Buildings and Grounds

Umling said he spoke with Ms. Connell (who lives out of town and has expressed concern for the tennis courts' condition). He explained to her that repairs are planned but not as extensive nor as expensive as she requested.

Streets and Rights of Way

Whittington said the Parish road treatment will begin soon, but unknown as to where the complete overlay will start.

Water Department

Fuller said the total cost estimate for the belt press machine needed at the water plant has now exceeded \$850,000.00; therefore, he is looking for other alternatives.

Sewer Department

Guin said he has received many phone calls and emails for the contractor re: the sewer plant project. He stated that for the employee's protection, they should get in touch with the engineers to have them confirm whether or not the job has been completed. It is not the employee's responsibility to make that decision. Guin also said any time he has contacted the Blanchard Police Dept. he has always received good results and he appreciates the work they do.

Police Department

Chief said everything is fine.

Treasurer Report

Lee said nothing to report.

Comments by the Mayor

Mayor Pro-Tem Lee said the workshop scheduled for July 28th has been cancelled. Motion by Fuller to adjourn, second by Whittington. All voted yea. Meeting adjourned 8:04 p.m.

Patsy Lee, Mayor Pro-Tem

Debra Smith, Town Clerk